

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1814 – HB 1969

February 10, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires that proceeds from the sale of assets by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) be deposited in the General Fund.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue –

\$1,393,100/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/General Fund

Decrease State Revenue - \$1,393,100/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/

Wildlife Resources Fund

Other Fiscal Impact – This legislation could jeopardize approximately \$27,000,000 in funding received annually into the Wildlife Resources Fund if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services determine that the state diverted hunting and fishing license revenue from the TWRA.

Assumptions:

- Based on information from the TWRA, the Agency has averaged approximately \$1,049,146 in revenue each year over the past 5 years from the sale of personal property assets.
- Based on information from the TWRA, the Agency has averaged approximately \$343,957 in revenue each year over the past 5 years from the sale of real property assets.
- This legislation will require that both of these amounts, or together a sum of \$1,393,103 (\$1,049,146 + \$343,957), no longer be placed into the Wildlife Resources Fund, but placed into the General Fund.
- Pursuant to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts (50 CFR § 80.20), the sale of personal property assets or real personal property assets, that were acquired with license revenue, is defined as “hunting and fishing license revenue.”
- TWRA personal property assets and real property assets are assumed to have been acquired with revenue derived from the sale of fish and wildlife licenses.
- Pursuant to 50 CFR § 80.21, if a state diverts license revenue from the control of its fish and wildlife agency, the chief executive official of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services may declare a state in “diversion” and make such state ineligible for federal aid.

SB 1814 – HB 1969

- The TWRA receives approximately \$27,000,000 annually under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Acts.
- This legislation could result in a decrease in state revenue to the Wildlife Fund of approximately \$27,000,000.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jb